

DEVELOPMENTAL & AUTISM EVALUATIONS

WHY SHOULD I HAVE MY CHILD EVALUATED?

The goal of the evaluation process is to identify your child's strengths and areas of need. The evaluation team will offer resources and services to support your child and family.

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

Your child may have multiple evaluations and there are key elements that should be included.

During an evaluation, you and your child may participate in observations and interviews, play sessions with the evaluator(s) and/or filling out questionnaires.

An evaluation specific to autism will include the activities listed above, as well as the use of an autism-specific tool, like the ADOS, STAT or others. An autism evaluation should be conducted by a professional with knowledge and experience in evaluating for autism. Some of these professionals may include psychologists, neurologists, developmental pediatricians and speech-language pathologists.

WHAT WILL MY ROLE AS A PARENT OR CAREGIVER BE DURING THE EVALUATION?

You know your child best and you are an important part of the team. The evaluator(s) may ask you questions or have you fill out questionnaires. Any concerns you have about your child should be discussed. It is important for you to ask the evaluator(s) any questions you have.

QUESTIONS TO ASK DURING OR AFTER THE EVALUATION:

What signs or behaviors did you see that led to the results?

Can you explain the criteria used?

What services are available for my child?

Where should I go for additional resources?

What happens next?

Will you evaluate my child again? If so, when?

Additional autism resource guides at:

delawareautismnetwork.org

ARE MULTIPLE EVALUATIONS NECESSARY?

Different evaluations may provide access to different services.

A child with a **developmental delay or disability** determined by Child Development Watch is eligible for **service coordination and early intervention** specific to the child's and family's needs.

A child with a **medical diagnosis of autism** determined by a clinician is eligible for **autism-related services** through private insurance and/or Medicaid.

A child with an **educational classification of autism** determined by a school evaluation team is eligible for **special education** and related services based on their individual needs.

For additional evaluation support contact:

AUTISM DELAWARE
www.autismdelaware.org

**PARENT INFORMATION CENTER
OF DELAWARE**
www.picofdel.org